



Village of Oak Park

123 Madison Street
Oak Park, Illinois 60302
www.oak-park.us

Meeting Minutes

President and Board of Trustees

Tuesday, May 12, 2026

6:30 PM

Village Hall

I. Call to Order

Village President Scaman called the Meeting to order at 6:31 P.M.

II. Roll Call

Village Trustee Leving Jacobson arrived at 6:32P.M.

Present: 6 - Village President Scaman, Village Trustee Eder, Village Trustee Leving Jacobson, Village Trustee Straw, Village Trustee Taglia, and Village Trustee Wesley

Absent: 1 - Village Trustee Enyia

III. Consideration of Motion to Adjourn to Executive Session to Discuss Pending, Probable, or Imminent Litigation, Setting a Price for Sale or Lease of Property Owned by the Village, and the Purchase or Lease of Real Property for the Use of the Village, Including Discussing whether a Particular Parcel Should be Acquired

It was moved by Village Trustee Straw, seconded by Village Trustee Eder to adjourn to Executive Session. The motion was approved. The roll call on the vote was as follows:

AYES: 6 - Village President Scaman, Village Trustee Eder, Village Trustee Leving Jacobson, Village Trustee Straw, Village Trustee Taglia, and Village Trustee Wesley

NAYS: 0

ABSENT: 1 - Village Trustee Enyia

IV. Adjourn Closed Session

V. Reconvene to Regular Meeting in Council Chambers and Call to Order

The Regular Meeting reconvened at 7:14 P.M.

VI. Roll Call

Roll Call taken prior to Closed Session.

VII. Agenda Approval

Amended to move Item O from Regular Agenda to Consent Agenda.

It was moved by Village Trustee Wesley, seconded by Village Trustee Straw, that this be approved as amended. A voice vote was taken and the motion was

approved.

VIII. Minutes

None; no action was taken regarding this item.

IX. Non-Agenda Public Comment

Heritage House Resident Irma B. reports that the building has severely deteriorated since she moved in, with issues including drugs, people sleeping in hallways, inadequate security, lack of cleanliness, and a mouse problem. She describes ongoing safety concerns, including overdoses and a recent large police presence responding to an unknown incident. She requested help from the board to address issues.

X. Proclamation

- A. [MOT 26-161](#) A Motion to Approve a Proclamation Recognizing May 17 - 23, 2026 as National Public Works Week

Village President Scaman provided a summary of the proclamation.

It was moved by Village Trustee Straw, seconded by Village Trustee Leving Jacobson, that this Motion be approved. A voice vote was taken and the motion was approved.

This Motion was approved.

- B. [MOT 26-164](#) A Motion to Approve a Proclamation Proclaiming May as Older Americans Month and the Week of May 7-14, 2026 as Celebrating Seniors Week in the Village of Oak Park

Village President Scaman asked Village Trustee Leving Jacobson to read the Proclamation aloud.

Village President Scaman recognized Pat Koko and Marc Blesoff.

It was moved by Village Trustee Wesley, seconded by Village Trustee Leving Jacobson, that this Motion be approved. A voice vote was taken and the motion was approved.

- C. [MOT 26-165](#) A Motion to Approve a Proclamation Proclaiming May 2026 as Asian American, Pacific Islander, Desi-American (APIDA) Heritage Month

Village President Scaman read the Proclamation aloud.

2026 Kapwa organizer Jane H. announced Kapwa!: A Celebration of Asian Pacific Islander Desi American Heritage at Village Hall will be on Saturday, May 30, from 11 AM to 2 PM.

It was moved by Village Trustee Wesley, seconded by Village Trustee Leving Jacobson, that this Motion be approved. A voice vote was taken and the motion was approved.

- D. [MOT 26-166](#) A Motion to Approve a Proclamation Proclaiming May 2026 as Jewish American Heritage Month in the Village of Oak Park

Village President Scaman asked Village Trustee Taglia to read the Proclamation aloud.

Temple Har Zion Rabbi Glick highlighted that Oak Park is home to the largest Jewish community in the western suburbs, with an estimated one to two thousand families actively involved in village life. He noted that the community has faced difficult years marked by rising antisemitism, making recognition and visibility especially meaningful.

Resident Michael Z. shared that Oak Park's Jewish heritage is much older than many realize, honoring both past community leaders and early Jewish settlers in the late 1800s. He emphasized that earlier generations of Jewish families faced discrimination in the suburbs but helped build the foundation for today's organized Jewish community.

It was moved by Village Trustee Leving Jacobson, seconded by Village Trustee Wesley, that this Motion be approved. A voice vote was taken and the motion was approved.

XI. Village Manager Reports

- E. [ID 26-230](#) A Presentation on Community Emergency Services and Supports Act (CESSA) Updated Guidelines and Requirements Impacting the Village of Oak Park

West Suburban Consolidated Dispatch Center Executive Director Brian Staunton provided an update on CESSA implementation. He explained that the state had created a four level system and that the region was currently in Level I, allowing only low risk, first party mental health calls with no signs of intoxication, threats, or weapons to be transferred to 988 with verbal consent. He reported that despite being live for five weeks, no calls had met the criteria for transfer, consistent with experiences at other dispatch centers. He also highlighted that the agency was ahead of the statewide schedule and had trained staff extensively, including CIT training for tenured dispatchers.

Director/ Asst. Village Manager Jonathan Burch added that only Level I calls were eligible for diversion and only when callers reported on themselves rather than on someone else. He emphasized that staff expected very few calls to qualify under current criteria. He confirmed that diverted calls would go to the 988 call center, with the option to escalate the response or return calls to 911 if needed. He also noted that existing policing contracts and practices remained unchanged during this phase.

Village Trustee Leving Jacobson pointed out that the legislative text referenced Phase 2 as a co-response model, whereas her understanding was that a previous board had directed an expanded role for Thrive in crisis response. She indicated that this difference needed clarification ahead of scheduled June discussion.

Village Trustee Wesley inquired which future levels were expected to produce noticeable diversion and whether there was any anticipated timeline.

Village Manager Jackson clarified that several additional call types would be part of Phase 2 beyond mental health calls. He emphasized the importance of understanding the status of CESSA implementation as the Village prepared to address the broader range of alternative response options.

XII. Village Board Committees

Village President Scaman announced Lobby Day for the Collaboration for Early Childhood highlighting Oak Park's intergovernmental partnership supporting children from birth through age 18 to ensure they have the resources needed to succeed, especially in the critical early years.

XIII. Citizen Commission Vacancies

- F. [ID 26-334](#) Board and Commission Vacancy Report for May 12, 2026

This report provides the expected number of members, current number of seated members, and the number of active vacancies across the Village's 18 citizen boards and commissions. There are currently 23 vacancies.

XIV. Citizen Commission Appointments, Reappointments and Chair Appointments

- G. [MOT 26-167](#) A Motion to Consent to the Village President's Appointment of:
Appoint Janet Lorch, as Commissioner, to the Aging in Communities Commission
Appoint Marsha Spight, as Commissioner, to the Aging in Communities Commission
Appoint Dirk De Lor, as Member, to the Citizens Police Oversight Committee
Appoint Branden McLeod, as Commissioner, to the Community Relations Commission
Reappoint Tejas N. Shah, for a 2nd Term, as Commissioner, to the Environment & Energy Commission
Appoint Tamar Bobys, as Commissioner, to the Farmer's Market Commission
Appoint Jay Ranz, as Commissioner, to the Farmers' Market Commission

Reappoint Jack Eskin, for a 2nd Term, as Commissioner, to the Transportation Commission

It was moved by Village Trustee Eder, seconded by Village Trustee Wesley, that this Motion be approved. A voice vote was taken and the motion was approved.

XV. Public Hearing

XVI. First Reading

XVII. Second Reading

XVIII. Consent Agenda

Approval of the Consent Agenda

It was moved by Village Trustee Leving Jacobson and seconded by Village Trustee Eder to approve the items under the Consent Agenda. The motion was approved. The roll call on the vote was as follows:

AYES: 6 - Village President Scaman, Village Trustee Eder, Village Trustee Leving Jacobson, Village Trustee Straw, Village Trustee Taglia, and Village Trustee Wesley

NAYS: 0

ABSENT: 1 - Village Trustee Enyia

- H. [MOT 26-154](#) A Motion to Approve an Updated Organization Chart for the Neighborhood Services Department, Including the Creation of a Full Time (1 FTE) Housing Licensing Coordinator position, and Directing Staff to Prepare the Necessary Budget Amendment
This Motion was approved.
- I. [MOT 26-163](#) Motion to Approve Closed Session Minutes (Not for Public Release) from June 11, 2024, July 16, 2024, July 23, 2024, September 16, 2024, October 22, 2024, November 21, 2024, January 14, 2025, January 22, 2025, March 4, 2025, May 6, 2025, May 13, 2025, July 22, 2025, December 2, 2025, December 9, 2025, January 13, 2026, January 27, 2026, March 18, 2026, and March 24, 2026
This Motion was approved.
- J. [ORD 26-134](#) An Ordinance Amending the Fiscal Year 2025 Budget
This Ordinance was adopted.
- K. [ORD 26-135](#) An Ordinance Amending the Fiscal Year 2026 Budget (Q1)
This Ordinance was adopted.
- L. [ORD 26-137](#) Concur with the Liquor Control Review Board and Adopt an Ordinance Amending Chapter 3 ("Alcoholic Liquor Dealers"), Article 8 ("List of

Licenses for Each License Class”), Section 8-3-1 (“Number of License Permitted to be Issued Per License Class”) and Section 3-8-2 (“Licenses by Name and Address Per License”) of the Oak Park Village Code for the Issuance of a Arts and Craft Establishment Class D-19 Liquor License to Bayan Ceramics Studio LLC

This Ordinance was adopted.

- M.** [ORD 26-138](#) Concur with the Liquor Control Review Board and Adopt an Ordinance Amending Chapter 3 (“Alcoholic Liquor Dealers”), Article 8 (“List of Licenses for Each License Class”), Section 8-3-1 (“Number of Licenses Permitted to be Issued Per License Class”) and Section 3-8-2 (“Licenses by Name and Address Per License”) of the Oak Park Village Code for the Issuance of a Package Class C-1 Liquor License to Royale Liquors LLC dba Pete’s Fresh Market #21

This Ordinance was adopted.

- O.** [RES 26-198](#) A Resolution to Give Staff the Authority to Issue a Waiver of the Requirements of Chapter 12, Article 3, Subsection 4e Of The Oak Park Village Code For The Oak Park Commons Cohousing Project

This Resolution was adopted.

XIX. Regular Agenda

- N.** [MOT 26-152](#) A Motion to Receive the Citizen Police Oversight Committee’s Semi-Annual Report

HR Director / Assistant Village Manager Kira Tchang explained that the board was receiving its regular semiannual report from the Citizen Police Oversight Committee, covering activities from July to December 2025. She noted that the Village had recently onboarded a the DEI Manager Arthell Davis, who would help operationalize police oversight and begin implementing PIVOT recommendations.

Village Trustee Eder thanked staff for the report and asked about the timeline for implementing PIVOT recommendations. He requested additional data presentation in future reports, including tallies of officer complaint outcomes. He also asked about department policy for officers with multiple sustained complaints.

Police Chief Shatonya Johnson explained that the department reviewed multiple sustained complaints holistically, considering timing, policy alignment, and training needs. She said disciplinary responses ranged from coaching to possible separation depending on severity. She also noted that the department was creating a matrix to guide future evaluations.

Village Trustee Wesley commented that the report showed an unusual

trend in which 60 percent of complainants were white, which he found notable.

Village Trustee Taglia stated that complaints were taken seriously and appreciated the update from CPOC. He asked for context about the total number of complaints compared to total calls for service and highlighted that 16 complaints out of roughly 50,000 calls for service reflected a very small percentage. He thanked the police department for its work, noting the human complexity of police-resident interactions.

It was moved by Village Trustee Eder, seconded by Village Trustee Leving Jacobson, that this Motion be approved. A voice vote was taken and the motion was approved.

P. [ID 26-320](#)

A Presentation and Discussion of the Village's Pavement Management Program

Village Manager Jackson introduced Village Engineer Bill McKenna and clarified that the purpose of the presentation was to gather board feedback on the pavement management study rather than make policy decisions. He explained that staff would use the board's input to shape recommendations for the FY27 budget. He emphasized the importance of understanding funding scenarios and network goals ahead of future budgeting work.

Bill McKenna explained that the Village had received a grant enabling CMAP and consultants to complete a pavement management evaluation and produce funding scenarios tied to pavement condition goals. He described how the plan focused on the local street network and included both capital improvements and preservation activities.

Project Manager Abbas Kachwalla outlined how pavement management worked, describing the data collection process using imaging technology, the scoring system, and the Village's overall network rating of 66. He presented images representing pavement conditions, explained the decline in scores since 2021, and compared Oak Park's condition to regional averages. He walked through multiple funding scenarios showing how different investment levels affected future pavement conditions and highlighted that maintaining or improving the PCI required higher annual funding.

Village Trustee Straw asked how the five year recommendations related to funding levels and whether additional funding sources were considered. He expressed support for targeting a PCI of 70-75 and emphasized minimizing the number of severely deteriorated streets.

Village Trustee Wesley expressed strong appreciation for the data and argued that the Village needed to fully account for the true cost of infrastructure maintenance. He suggested that Oak Park had too much

pavement relative to its traffic and proposed exploring narrower streets or repurposed roadway space to reduce long term maintenance costs and improve safety. He supported increasing capital investment and maintaining a PCI goal in the 70-75 range.

Village Trustee Taglia praised the long term planning approach and noted that roadway conditions seemed worse than in past decades. He requested historical context on pavement condition distribution and highlighted the rising construction costs that reduce buying power over time. He advocated for increasing investment to improve safety, reduce the backlog of poor streets, and reach a PCI of 70 or 75.

Village Trustee Eder asked detailed questions about mapping, data presentation, and how actual spending differed from modeled scenarios due to water, sewer, and streetscape projects. He sought clarification on pavement lifecycles, treatment benefits, and how preservation extended roadway life. He supported exploring opportunities to narrow or repurpose streets and emphasized that PCI targets should guide capital discussions in the Finance Committee.

Village President Scaman affirmed that the Village had historically targeted a PCI of 70-75 and said she continued to support that goal. She emphasized the need to adequately fund both preservation and major repairs to prevent streets from falling below the rehabilitation threshold. She highlighted lessons learned from the ARPA era spending freeze and directed the Finance Committee to incorporate the study's findings into budget planning.

XX. Call to Board and Clerk

Village Trustee Wesley noted the painful contrast between celebrating Senior Citizens Month and hearing seniors describe unsafe and unacceptable living conditions at Heritage House, emphasizing that their suffering was deeply troubling and that the Village needed to pursue every possible solution. He also recounted that his landscaper, who had been using a prohibited gas powered leaf blower, received a warning from Village staff, which he accepted as appropriate. However, he said the interaction concerned him because the landscaper felt threatened when the staff member told him not to return, took photos of him and his grandson, and left him feeling unwelcome in Oak Park. He stressed that such conduct conflicted with the Village's Welcoming Ordinance and that equal treatment and respect must apply to everyone.

Village Trustee Eder expressed strong support for the cohousing community and shared that some of their close friends in Grand Rapids lived happily in a cohousing community, which had given them a positive view of the model. He said they were excited to see cohousing come to

Oak Park and was glad that the Village was able to work through the administrative challenges that come with introducing something new.

XXI. Adjourn

It was moved by Village Trustee Wesley, seconded by Village Trustee Straw to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 9:23 P.M.

It was moved by Village Trustee Wesley, seconded by Village Trustee Eder, that this be approved. A voice vote was taken and the motion was approved.